

Q1 cont

a coolant flow inlet;
a coolant flow outlet sized to receive the lower tie plate of a fuel bundle; and
a coolant flow bore extending between said coolant flow inlet and said coolant flow outlet, said coolant flow inlet offset from said coolant flow outlet so that a centerline of said coolant flow inlet is parallel to a centerline of said coolant flow outlet.

Q2 *Sub C2*

9. (amended) A core for a nuclear reactor comprising:

a plurality of fuel bundles, each fuel bundle comprising a lower tie plate;
a plurality of cruciform shaped large control rods;
a plurality of cruciform shaped control rod guide tubes; and
a core plate assembly comprising:
a flat plate;
a plurality of support beams, said flat plate positioned on top of said support beams;
a plurality of control rod guide tube openings, each said guide tube opening sized to receive a control rod guide tube, said control rod guide tube openings arranged in staggered rows; and
a plurality of fuel supports extending through said flat plate, each said fuel support comprising:
a coolant flow inlet;
a coolant flow outlet sized to receive the lower tie plate of a fuel bundle; and
a coolant flow bore extending between said coolant flow inlet and said coolant flow outlet, said coolant flow inlet offset from said coolant flow outlet so that a centerline of said coolant flow inlet is parallel to a centerline of said coolant flow outlet.
